

PATENT  
Serial No. 10/507,189  
Amendment in Reply to Office Action mailed on July 12, 2006

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed July 12, 2006, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been deleted and substituted with the enclosed New Abstract which better conforms to U.S. practice.

In the Office Action, claims 6 and 17 are objected to for certain informalities. By means of the present amendment, claims 6 and 17 have been canceled without prejudice.

In the Office Action, claims 1-7, 10-11, 13 and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite. Without agreeing with the Examiner, and in the interest of advancing prosecution, claims 6, 10-11, 13, 16-17 and 19-20 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 1 and 15 have been amended for better clarity. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection of 1-7, 10-11, 13 and 15-17 has been overcome and an indication as such is respectfully requested.

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In the Office Action, claims 16 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,414,489 (Young). Further, claims 1-7, 10-11, 13 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Young in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,323,604 (Boenigk). Claims 16 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Young in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,100,643 (Nilssen). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-5, 7, 15, and 21 are patentable over Young, Boenigk and Nilssen for at least the following reasons.

Young is directed to a compact fluorescent lamp having a plug-in ballast module 28 which includes insulated wire winding 45 and iron core 46, as shown in FIG 6. FIG 11 shows another ballast module 28e having a circuit with two capacitors 53, 54 two resistors 55, 56 and two diodes 51, 52.

Boenigk is directed to a high-pressure discharge lamp L having a circuit arrangement which is integrated in the lamp base or base housing (SCH). The circuit arrangement combines a starting device ZK and a power reducing circuit including a phase-gating control (PS). A capacitor C2 is connected in parallel with the lamp L to

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provide a transfer voltage which is distinctly higher than the input voltage of the arrangement.

As shown in FIG 2b, a first capacitor C7 is connected in parallel between one end of an inductor L1 and an input voltage line CE2. A second capacitor C2, along with a parallel connection of a third capacitor C6 and spark gap FS2, are connected in parallel across the first capacitor C7. A starting transformer T1, having a primary winding SW, is connected between second capacitor C2 and the Boenigk lamp L.

Nilssen is directed to a fluorescent lighting system where, as shown in FIG 12, includes a lighting unit LUy1 where a capacitor TCY1 is connected in parallel with a primary winding PWy1 of a ballasting transformer BTy1.

It is respectfully submitted that Young, Boenigk, Nilssen, and combinations thereof, do not teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 15 which, amongst other patentable elements, requires (illustrative emphasis provided):

a series chain, electrically connected in parallel with the first condenser, of at least one ignition and at least one first inductor,

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the discharge lamp electrically being connected in parallel with the ignition and being provided with a discharge vessel, and

a module electrically connected in series between discharge vessel and the at least one ignition, the module comprising a parallel connection of a second condenser electrically connected in parallel with a second inductor, the parallel connection of is electrically connected in series between the discharge vessel and the at least one ignition.

These features are nowhere taught or suggested in Young, Boenigk, Nilssen, and combinations thereof. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 15 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-5, 7 and 21-22 should also be allowed based at least on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 15.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of

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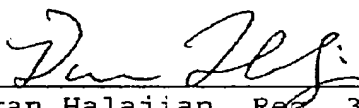
the Examiner's statements are conceded.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due beyond the fee for one additional independent claim and one additional claim in excess of 48 already paid for to be charged to the credit card as noted by the enclosed authorization (in view of canceled multiple dependent claim 13 which had been counted as, and fees previously paid for, 6 claims). However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required for entrance of the accompanying amendment, they may be charged to Applicants' representatives Deposit Account No. 50-3649. In addition, please credit any overpayments related to any fees paid in connection with the accompanying amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-3649.

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In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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Enclosure: New Abstract

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